



## Town of Garner NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2014

Contact: Lt. Chris Clayton,  
Garner Police Department  
Phone: (919) 661-6980  
Email: [cclayton@garnernc.gov](mailto:cclayton@garnernc.gov)

## Police Department Welcomes New Personnel

The Garner Police Department has recently added four new members to its team, including one sworn officer.

### **Al Rivera**

The New York City native was sworn in as an officer on June 6. Officer Rivera attended John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He served on the NYPD for a total of four years. He was assigned to the Field Force Unit and also served as a DWI and traffic enforcement officer. Officer Rivera was also employed with the Miami Beach Police Department for 14 years serving in various assignments. He also worked for Durham PD in 2011, later re-joining Miami Beach PD.

### **Thomas “Tommy” Edwards**

Edwards has joined Garner PD as a new services officer. The primary role of the two services officers is to patrol parks and lock park gates and restrooms during the evenings. They will also assist patrol with animal control calls and other calls that do not require a sworn officer’s response. Finally, they will be first responders for Public Works after hours to assist in evaluating the nature of emergencies and help determine the response needed.

Edwards holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Campbell University. He received his North Carolina firefighter I/II certification last year and is a current member of the Civil Air Patrol. Edwards will be starting the basic law enforcement training program at Wake Technical Community College this summer.

### **Kevin Hoyle**

Hoyle also has joined Garner PD as a services officer. The Virginia Beach native graduated from Liberty University in May, receiving a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. Hoyle serves as a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army National Guard in Boone.

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**Della McKinnon**

McKinnon is the Police Department's new records manager. She earned a bachelor's degree and master's degree in criminal justice, both from North Carolina Central University. She also holds a master's of theological studies from Duke University and a doctorate of ministry from the Apex School of Theology. Prior to joining Garner PD, McKinnon worked for the Durham Police Department as a records manager. She started her law enforcement career as a police officer with Durham PD.

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